border with Pakistan, what steps Government has taken so far to sanction and strengthen the scheme of rural/desert policing in Rajasthan, under Centrally Sponsored Scheme;

(b) the financial support Government has so far provided or proposes to provide to strengthen the system in the State for curbing the possibilities of terrorist/spying activities and strengthening rural desert policing in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) Central assistance is provided to States under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme) to strengthen and modernise their police forces, Accordingly, Central assistance has been provided to Rajasthan for strengthening its' police force in various activities, including desert policing. The details of Central funds released to Rajasthan are as under the MPF Scheme:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Total funds released (including desert policing)	Funds released for desert policing
2005-06	34.81	03.00
2006-07	40.47	12.00
2007-08	38.06	09.00
TOTAL:	113.34	24.00

Besides, the State Government has been advised to earmark upto 5% of the plan size under the Scheme towards strengthening of the intelligence/special branches.

(d) Does not arise, in view of (a) to (c) above.

High Court's directions regarding telecast of sting operations

712. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent High Court judgement proposed a scheme in which media organizations would telecast sting operations only after they have been cleared by the Government committee;

(b) if so, whether this is one of the sweeping guidelines on sting operations proposed by a bench headed by Chief Justice and has directed that I & B Ministry incorporate them in the proposed Broadcast Bill; and

(c) if so, what are the other points mentioned in the judgement about the sting telecast and by what time Government is considering to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Hon'ble Delhi High Court has directed that

the guidelines proposed by the Amicus before it should be considered by the concerned Ministry and if they find favour, they may be incorporated in the enactment/guidelines, with modifications as deemed fit and proper.

(c) No final view has been taken on the issues to be incorporated in the proposed Broadcasting Bill. The judgement dated 14.12.2007 in WP(Crl.) No. 1175/2007-Court on its own motion *vs.* State is available on the website of the Delhi High Court, *www.delhihighcourt.nic.in.*

Advertisement regarding achievement in the print media

713. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how much money has the Government spent this year on newspaper advertisements that announce achievements and inaugurations;

(b) should Government be spending money on advertising when information is uploaded on Government websites for those who are interested;

(c) is Government considering depersonalising such advertisements to remove pictures of political figures, thereby reducing size of ads and their cost; and

(d) is there an audit on how effective is Government's spending on communication?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) During the current financial year [upto 22/02/2008] an amount of Rs. 17.5 crores has been spent by the Government on newspaper advertisements through DAVP.

(b) Central Government advertisements released through DAVP to newspapers, magazines, radio and TV, are meant to create awareness amongst the public, whereas internet facilities may not be accessible to a large majority of the public.

(c) DAVP does not issue any personal or political advertisement. The DAVP endeavours to right size the advertisement according to the content.

(d) Yes, Sir. Impact studies are undertaken from time to time, through professional communication research organizations.

Foreign ownership in print media

714. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of foreign ownership in print media;

(b) what are the factors preventing foreign media from entering India; and

(c) is the Government under any kind of pressure from existing print media lobbyists that's preventing it?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Several Indian Companies engaged in publishing newspapers and periodicals dealing with news and current affairs have been allowed to bring in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) subject to the maximum limit of 26% of their paid up equity capital.